

Judicial Council of Georgia Administrative Office of the Courts

PRESS RELEASE

For more information: Ashley Stollar ashley.stollar@gaaoc.us 404-656-6783 For Immediate Release: September 2, 2011

Two New Members Sworn-In to Commission on Dispute Resolution

(Atlanta) Judge Gregory A. Adams, Superior Court, Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit, and Mr. Ken Shigley, President of the State Bar of Georgia, became the newest members of the Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution on Thursday, September 1, 2011. Judge Adams and Mr. Shigley were sworn-in by Commission member Justice Hugh P. Thompson, Supreme Court of Georgia. Justice Thompson stated, "The Commission on Dispute Resolution plays a vital role in Georgia's justice system. Judge Adams and Mr. Shigley will enhance our Commission's work as we create efficiencies for the citizens of our State."

"We are delighted to welcome Judge Adams and Mr. Shigley to serve on our Commission," said Edith B. Primm, Esq., Chair of the Commission. "Our alternative dispute resolution system continues to thrive in the courts through the unwavering support of our judges and our long-standing partnership with the State Bar of Georgia." Judge Adams was elected to the Superior Court bench in 2004 and previously served as a Juvenile Court Judge in DeKalb County; Mr. Shigley, 2011-2012 President of the State Bar of Georgia, is a trial attorney at Chambers Aholt & Rickard with over thirty years of experience in trial, litigation, and dispute resolution practice.

The Georgia Commission on Dispute Resolution is the policy-making body appointed by the Supreme Court of Georgia to oversee the development of court-connected alternative dispute resolution programs in Georgia. The mission of the Commission is to help the Supreme Court of Georgia fulfill its Constitutional mandate to "provide for the speedy, efficient, and inexpensive resolution of disputes and prosecutions" in the judiciary. The Commission manages a statewide system that offers effective alternatives to traditional litigation. The alternatives – mediation, non-binding arbitration, and case evaluation – provide Georgia litigants with lower-cost choices for resolving their differences preserving court resources for cases that cannot be resolved with judge or jury.